

VZCZCXRO7155
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #1325 1630119
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 120119Z JUN 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3687
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 4550
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 8353
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 9814
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2884
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 5841
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 5561
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
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CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Most Friday morning Japanese dailies led with the official WHO declaration of a worldwide 'pandemic' of H1N1 influenza.

¶2. "China Holds Key to Enforcement of New UN Resolution" The moderate Yomiuri editorialized (6/12): "There is no doubt that North Korea trampled on previous UN Security Council resolutions by going ahead with ballistic missile launches and a nuclear test because the resolutions had not been implemented thoroughly and hence existed only in name. North Korea is set to escalate its provocative behavior by threatening to conduct additional nuclear tests and launch ballistic missiles. It is necessary to firmly encircle and deal with North Korea, which is trying to make its possession of nuclear weapons a fait accompli.... Above all, deeper engagement by China, North Korea's largest trading partner, is important. Beijing is called upon to take proactive steps."

¶3. "Unity Must Be Preserved to Deal with Crisis" The liberal Asahi insisted in an editorial (6/12): "Concerned parties have deepened their mutual understanding over North Korea through discussions at the UNSC. They must firmly uphold this unity and closely consult one another in order to deal with North Korea in view of the prolonged suspension of the Six-Party Talks. Given that China succeeded in having its position reflected in the agreed-upon draft resolution, it must take the lead in implementing the proposed sanctions."

¶4. "Be Prepared for 'Regime Change' in North Korea" The conservative Sankei carried a column by a college professor (6/12): "After all, we have little hope of finding a solution to North Korea's nuclear and missile development, as well as the abductions of Japanese citizens, without a regime change, meaning the death of Kim Jong Il or the loss of his ability to lead. Such prospects are frustrating but cannot be avoided given that North Korea is a dictatorial dynasty. However, that day may not be so far away."

ZUMWALT